

Powers and Prerogatives of the House

A. GENERALLY

§ 1. Scope

This chapter does not exhaustively treat the powers of Congress enumerated in the Constitution. It is intended, rather, as a discussion of selected areas, including some in which issues have arisen, or may arise, as to the relative scope of authority of Congress and other branches of government.⁽¹⁾

§ 2. Admitting States to the Union

Article IV, section 3, clause 1, empowers Congress to admit new states to the Union. No new state may be formed within the jurisdiction of any other state or by the junction of two or more states, or parts of states, without the consent of the legislatures of the two

1. See Ch. 11, *supra*, for a discussion of the related subject, privilege of the House, and Ch. 24, *infra*, for a discussion of congressional vetoes.

See also 2 Hinds' Precedents §§1480–1561; and 6 Cannon's Precedents §§314–329, for treatment of precedents arising prior to 1936.

states concerned as well as the Congress.⁽²⁾

Alaska

§ 2.1 The House and Senate agreed to a bill admitting Alaska into the Union.

The House on May 28, 1958,⁽³⁾ and the Senate on June 30, 1958,⁽⁴⁾ agreed to H.R. 7999, admitting Alaska into the Union. The measure was approved on July 7, 1958.⁽⁵⁾

Hawaii

§ 2.2 The Senate and House agreed to a bill admitting Hawaii into the Union.

2. See *House Rules and Manual* §216 (1973); and *Constitution of the United States of America: Analysis and Interpretation*, S. Doc. No. 9282, 92d Cong. 2d Sess., pp. 842–845 (1973) for discussion of this provision.

3. 104 CONG. REC. 9756, 9757, 85th Cong. 2d Sess.

4. *Id.* at p. 12650.

5. 572 Stat. 339 (Pub. L. No. 85–508).